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Date: October 17, 2006
To: Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Bonnie Lowenthal, Vice Mayor *BL*
Subject: **Recommendations from the Ethics Review Task Force**

The Ethics Review Task Force was established by the City Council at its meeting of October 9, 2001, to develop a Code of Ethics with an ethics education component to be followed by a set of recommendations to the City Council. Twelve residents of the City were appointed to the Task Force and served voluntarily.

The Ethics Review Task Force prepared a report in June 2002 detailing 23 recommendations for adoption by the City Council. The recommendations covered the establishment of a Code of Ethics, ethics training and education, campaign activity, lobbying, conflicts of interest and more.

While some recommendations were adopted by the City Council, a number of recommendations remain outstanding. As the City works to promote ethical policies, we should review the recommendations that are outstanding, and also evaluate the existing Code of Ethics and other adopted recommendations to determine how the City's ethics rules can be strengthened to help restore public confidence in government.

Recommendation:

I respectfully request that the recommendations from the Ethics Review Task Force report be referred to the Elections Oversight Committee for an evaluation of the adopted ethics rules and consideration of the unadopted recommendations.